

Casemate

Spotlight
Event

Music Under The Stars

TUSCAB's summer concert series continues Thursday at 7 p.m., at Continental Park. The show is free and open to the public.

Vol. 27, No. 15

Published for the community of Fort Monroe

July 22, 2005

Hourly care gets new digs

BY BELINDA BAKER
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

A \$415,471 construction project has resulted in new digs for the Fort Monroe Child and Youth Services Hourly Childcare program.

After being temporarily housed in a modular building on post for nearly two years, hourly care moves to its permanent home Monday.

The newly built annex is part of the Child Development Center located on Fenwick Road. The 1,800-square-foot wing includes a large classroom, two children's restrooms, one adult restroom and built-in storage shelves, according to Andy Cross, DPW/L project manager.

Cross said the annex has its own HVAC system separate from the main building, a fire safety sprinkler system and a laundry room. Kitchen renovations and playground expansion were

See **HOURLY CARE**, Page 3

What's Inside



Top Soldiers Compete

Six candidates competed for TRADOC's top Soldier title this week at forts Monroe and Eustis.

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Photo by Patrick Buffett

Col. Jason T. Evans receives the Fort Monroe colors from Diane Devens, Northeast Region Director, during a change of command ceremony July 14 at Continental Park. Evans replaced Col. Perry D. Allmendinger as garrison commander.

Monroe welcomes new garrison commander

BY PATRICK BUFFETT
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

Ready to face the challenges of an ambitious modernization program and anxious to support any effort that benefits Soldiers, civilian employees and families, Col. Jason T. Evans assumed command of Fort Monroe garrison July 14 at Continental Park.

About 300 guests – to include Hampton Mayor Ross A. Kearney, II, and other elected officials from the Tidewater area – turned out for the event. The official party was comprised of: Diane Devens, Director of the Northeast Region, Installation Management Agency; Col. Perry D. Allmendinger, outgoing garrison commander; Evans; and Command Sgt. Maj. David E. Williams, garrison

CSM. The senior mission commander for the ceremony was Lt. Gen. Anthony R. Jones, TRADOC Deputy Commanding General and Chief of Staff.

In his first address to the Fort Monroe community, Evans also acknowledged the installation's uncertain future as politicians continue to mull over the 2005 BRAC list. A

“What the future holds for Fort Monroe is still undetermined. But today, there is work to be done ... a mission to carry out.”

Col. Jason T. Evans
GARRISON COMMANDER

final recommendation will be handed to President Bush in mid-September.

“What the future holds for Fort Monroe is still undetermined,” the colonel said. “But today, there is work to be done ... a mission to carry out.

“That mission has not changed,” he continued. “It has been to contribute to the defense of our nation, and I am fortunate to be able to work with a staff of experienced military and civilian professionals (who are) dedicated to getting the job done at a level of excellence befitting this beautiful and extraordinary installation.”

The 44-year-old Adjutant General Corps officer also demonstrated his good-natured spirit as he publicly thanked the many members of his

See **EVANS**, Page 10

Hampton Cup Regatta, August 12 - 14, Mill Creek and Fort Monroe. See story, Page 7

It is only as we go through the hard things that we become strong.

Spiritual 'slingshots' make us better than ever

Military moves are always bittersweet. The sorrow of parting with others you've come to know as friends collide with the excitement of new beginnings and different faces. Powerful memories of the path you walked slowly give way to the sheer, compelling power of future hopes and dreams.

Even as a bystander during the recent change of command between Col. Perry D. Allmendinger and Col. Jason T. Evans, I experienced that swirl of emotions. In some ways these comings and goings are like the "slingshot effect" used in space travel.

Put simply, a spacecraft will orbit a planet; build up speed, and shoot out into space toward its next target with a big "push" from gravity (if you want the full, very technical explanation, go to [www](http://www.mathpages.com/home/kmath114.htm)).

Chaplain's Corner



Maj. Jerald Jacobs
Post Chaplain's Office

mathpages.com/home/kmath114.htm).

When someone with whom we've had a meaningful professional or personal relationship leaves, it's sad. Like gravity, it "pulls us down." As we move around (and through) that grief, we draw on the memories for comfort. At the same time, there are other persons and other responsibilities calling

to us. We get busy with new things, and, while we're still very aware of the emptiness caused by that person's departure, we're also propelled by the sense of excitement because something new is starting.

During the change of command, both colonels also expressed their faith in, and dependence on, God. That too was uplifting.

Knowing what faith and a genuine concern for people did for the outgoing commander as he led Monroe through a turbulent time (Hurricane Isabel, 2003) helped me envision what Col. Evans' faith will do for him – and us – as he leads us through whatever comes next.

Good often comes out of what we perceive to be bad. I believe it can always happen that way, but it requires the spiritual dimension. Shaping every situation to bring about a

positive result is God's design.

Even in extreme cases – like the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, and July 7, 2005 – there are some silver linings. Here in Virginia we paused for two minutes of silence as a memorial to the slain and a symbol of our personal and national support of our friends and fellow defenders of freedom.

British Muslims are stating publicly that terrorism is inconsistent with the teachings of Islam. Muslim support for Osama bin Laden and violent radical Islam is eroding.

At a ceremony one week after the bombings, George Psaradakis, the driver of the London bus that was bombed, said, "As we stand together in silence, let us send a message to the terrorists; 'you will not defeat us and you will not break us.'"

The events and memories

are painful, but good people, motivated by love, bring hope, help and comfort. As New Yorkers and those who work in the Pentagon struggled through their collective pain together, they were caught up in a new and exciting vision of progress and community that has in some ways made those places better than ever. They orbited around the pain and have been thrust forward to reach new heights.

Such is the power of spiritual health. It is only as we go through the hard things that we become strong. I pray that we will allow God to use all the "hard things" in our lives as a "slingshot" to make us better and stronger than ever, spiritually, physically and emotionally. Orbit around the hard stuff, work through the pain, then hang on – you'll be in for one wild ride!

God bless you.

Water surrounding Fort Monroe contains severe currents, riptides and underwater debris.

Monroe fishing, swimming rules stress safety

Fishing and swimming are among the most popular summertime activities enjoyed at Fort Monroe each year.

Engineer pier has been a favorite spot for anglers for decades. Our expertly maintained post pools present an irresistible opportunity to take a break from hot summer days.

Like any outdoor sporting activities, however, a set of rules and guidelines have been established to keep participants safe. As a service to the community, the post Provost Marshal Office reminds residents and guests of the rules and limitations that are put in place to prevent injury.

The PMO advises personnel that Engineer Pier is

MP Roll Call

the only authorized location for non-DoD cardholding civilians to fish on Fort Monroe. It is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday to all persons from dawn until dusk.

On Wednesdays, the pier is open to everyone from dawn until 4 p.m. After that, it is only open to eligible ID card holders (active duty and retired military and DoD civilians).

Fishing and crabbing are not allowed at the Marina Pier, Chamberlin Pier, Bay Breeze Beach, Dog Beach or seawalls.

The Finger piers, jetties and Mill Creek ramp are

open to eligible ID-card holders only, seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Moat fishing is permitted during designated spring and fall striper seasons (May 1 to June 15 and Oct. 4 to Dec. 31) for eligible ID card holders only, seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Personnel must have a current DoD ID and Virginia Saltwater Fishing License in their possession when fishing on post (when applicable). Saltwater fishing licenses are required for anyone fishing with a rod and reel, hand line or any fishing device in Virginia's portion of the Chesapeake Bay or in the saltwater tidal tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay.

Exceptions are children

under 16 years of age; persons 65 years of age or older; persons fishing on a recreational boat/rental boat or head boat which has a valid Virginia fishing license covering all persons using the craft; organized groups or individuals with physical or mental limitations; veterans in veterans hospitals; and school groups (K-12) with permission from the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries.

Further information or assistance may be obtained at Old Point Comfort Marina at 788-4308.

Swimming is prohibited in non-designated areas. The water surrounding Fort Monroe contains severe currents, riptides and underwater debris. Swimming in these areas can cause injury

or death. The safest rule is: "no lifeguards, no swimming."

The designated swimming areas are the Bay Breeze pool and beach. Lifeguards will be present Memorial Day through Labor Day during posted hours.

Swimming is not permitted beyond the boundaries of the designated swimming beach. Other off limits areas for swimming are Dog Beach, Mill Creek, the moat, jetties and the Marina. Also, wading is not permitted in these areas that do not have lifeguard protection.

Appropriate signs will be displayed defining the limits of each water-use area. The signs are directives, and must be obeyed.

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Casemate

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U.S. Government under exclusive written contract with Headquarters, Fort Monroe. Printed circulation: 5,000.

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Army officer saves life, receives Soldiers Medal

BY PATRICK BUFFETT
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

With the accident victim he saved sitting proudly by his side, a lieutenant colonel from Fort Bragg, N.C., was presented the Army's highest award for noncombat heroism — the Soldiers Medal — here July 15 at the Bay Breeze Community Center.

Lt. Col. Daniel Chapa, now the Director of Logistics at Womack Army Medical Center, was lauded by Lt. Gen. John M. Curran, Director, TRADOC Futures Center, for the lifesaving measures he took amid busy rush-hour traffic along Mercury Boulevard in mid-September.

Chapa was on a temporary duty assignment at Monroe when he witnessed a motorcycle accident involving David Karpa from Hampton.

"An automobile had struck Mr. Karpa and he was thrown into the path of oncoming cars," Chapa said in his narrative about the event. "I immediately stopped and ... ran out to stop vehicles from hitting him."

As another motorist continued to control traffic and call for an ambulance, Chapa rendered assistance to the badly injured victim.

"I found him conscious, but immobilized with a noticeably disfigured leg," Chapa reported. In addition to multiple fractures, Karpa's foot was nearly severed and he was bleeding profusely from a severed artery.

"I tried to apply direct pressure with no effect," Chapa said. "I obtained a belt from an



Photo by Mike Tatum

Lt. Col. Daniel Chapa receives a grateful handshake from David Karpa during an awards ceremony July 15 at the Bay Breeze Community Center. Chapa was presented the Soldiers Medal for saving Karpa's life after a September 2004 motorcycle accident.

onlooker and made a tourniquet below his knee."

That slowed the blood flow, and allowed Chapa to concentrate on other possible injuries. He continued to reassure the victim and keep him conscious until medical help arrived about 25 minutes later.

Although Karpa lost his right leg as a result of the accident, doctors at the nearby Regional Medical Center said he would have perished if Chapa had not stopped to render assistance.

"Right afterward, a lot of folks asked me what it was that made me take the actions I did that day, and I just summed it up with a simple 'I did what I had to do,'" Chapa said following the presentation.

"But that's too convenient," he continued. "I've given it a lot more thought since then, and I realize it was a bunch of things like training, experience and confidence in my abilities."

"The Army gave me the skills and opportunity to train combat medics, and if it hadn't been for those many lessons I've taught time and time again, I wouldn't have had the skill sets needed to do what I did that day."

"That's why I want to dedicate this award to those combat medics out there who continue to render aid and even save lives day after day," Chapa said with a glance toward Karpa. "Their actions are every bit as heroic but not always recognized."

Residents raise traffic concerns, seek playground during town hall

A town hall meeting was held at the Post Theater July 11. The former garrison commander, Col. Perry D. Allmendinger, was the host of the event and representatives from key post directorates and offices participated. The following questions and answers were discussed during the meeting.

There are a number of vehicles that do not belong to residents passing through the Ingalls housing area particularly between 7 to 8:30 a.m. and 4 to 5:30 p.m. What can be done to prevent unauthorized usage?

As of 19 July (the Provost Marshal Office) initiated a traffic survey to figure out the volume of vehicles using Pratt Street as a thoroughfare. PMO will complete the survey today. After the study, the area mayor and representatives from DPW/L and the PMO will implement a course of action to rectify the problem.

There is loud music on post after 8 p.m. Can something be done to quiet it? It would

be nice to sit in my yard with my family and not listen to some other person's music.

The Provost Marshal Office is currently revising the noise policy. Once the revision is completed and approved, the policy will be enforced.

Can arrangements be made to clean the sand and grass out of the bunker pit used for the post archery range? Also a picnic table needs to be placed at the range (as well as) six bales of straw for use as target back stops.

A service order was submitted to DPW/L to
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HOURLY CARE

Continued from Page 1

also part of the construction project, he noted. Contractors broke ground for the annex in December and completed the project July 1, when they turned it over to DPW/L.

Susanne Elsass, CDC director, said hourly services will shut down during the move to allow for set up but will resume after a pre-occupancy inspection team clears the wing for use.

"We will offer hourly care on an urgent need, emergency basis. Fortunately, this is the time of year when many of our full-day children take vacations so it is likely that we'll have a few slots open in full-day rooms to accommodate (hourly clients). We're hoping to reopen in early August. However, it all depends upon the availability of the pre-occupancy inspection group from Fort Eustis."

"We're excited about having all of our services under one roof," Elsass added. "I'm really looking forward to getting to know our hourly parents and children. Consolidation of services is going to make it easier for me, our assistant director and curriculum director to offer support to the hourly staff. It'll be more efficient as far as general oversight."

She said the new space will serve a dual purpose at the CDC, which came as an "unanticipated advantage." Kindergarteners will occupy the hourly care room before school at 8 a.m. and again in the afternoons starting at 3:30 p.m.

Victoria Askew, hourly care's lead teacher, expressed delight about the upcoming move. The eight-year childcare veteran is one of two staffers for the program.

"I'm ready for a permanent place. Stability is what I'm looking forward to most. It's just so exciting getting ready for a new room, a fresh start, a real home. It's like Christmas. You're just excited and anxious to see what's next," said Askew noting that several storage containers of hourly care materials were never unpacked at the temporary room after the storm.

"For our parents and children, our getting a permanent home means consistency. I think that is what's most important. Now they will have the benefit of seeing the same providers every time they use hourly care. I love working with our other hourly teacher, Silke Cooper. We are like a hand and glove; we're just that in sync. I think everyone can expect new and exciting things once we get all settled."

Elsass and Askew stressed that convenience is another plus. Parents will now have "one-stop shopping" as opposed to dropping off and picking up their children at the modular building, then having to go to the CDC for administrative services — payments, reservations and such.

After the hourly staff gets settled into their new room, Elsass said CDC plans to host an open house to show off the new wing. Details will be available in future editions of the Casemate.

The hourly care program can accommodate 20 children ranging in age from six weeks to 5 years. It's open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Registration with post Child and Youth Services is required to use the program. Once enrolled, parents can make reservations for hourly childcare by calling 788-5960.

The hourly care program was displaced in December 2003 when Hurricane Isabel damaged its accommodations in Building 95 beyond repair.

First-time forum focuses on retention goals

BY PATRICK BUFFETT
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

What does it take to maintain today’s Army and “grow” the future fighting force?

That question was the central focus of a first-time conference conducted at Fort Monroe July 12 through 14. Sixteen senior NCOs, representing TRADOC training centers and schools across the nation, gathered to discuss the command’s current retention program and future strategies that will insure its continued success.

“We haven’t had any problem surpassing our retention goals over the past several years,” said Sgt. Maj. Khadijah Sellers, who became TRADOC’s overall retention program advisor in March. “However, our success is due to a lot of individual effort ... I don’t think we shared clearly defined goals.

“The (Retention Senior Leaders Strategic Forum) adds that extra dimension,” the sergeant

major said. “It’s a chance to analyze the way we do business and develop a common strategy for FY 2006 and beyond.”

Topics discussed during the forum included attrition rates among first-term Soldiers, the career counselor’s role in promoting the Army spirit and the pros and cons of merging portions of the recruiting and retention programs.

“Why does someone stay in the Army?” posed Lt. Gen. Anthony R. Jones, TRADOC Deputy Commanding General and Chief of Staff, who was the featured speaker on the opening day of the event. “What do we do to keep it appealing? Do you consider the family when retaining a Soldier? What about recruiters ... is there anything you can do to help them out?

“Those are just some of the questions you need to address during this forum,” the general continued. “We are an Army fighting a war and transforming at the same time. We need to

maintain those crucial skill sets. We all share a huge responsibility.”

Encouraging “out-of-the-box thinking” when promoting the Army, Jones asked the forum attendees to consider the efforts of pro-military organizations like the King and His Court – the exhibition fast-pitch softball team that “Sports Illustrated” refers to as the “Harlem Globetrotters of baseball.”

The team and its founder, retired Marine Eddie Feigner, visited Fort Monroe July 8 (See photos, Page 12). To date, the team has played more than 14,000 games in 104 countries, and their message is always the same – support the U.S. military and never forget the sacrifices that were made in the name of freedom.

“Does anyone here know what the theme is for the 2005 (Association of the U.S. Army) convention in Washington, D.C.?” Jones questioned. “It’s ‘Call to Duty,’ and it honors those people who have served their country in uniform.

“How many of us take the time to sit down and talk to our veterans of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and so on?” the general later challenged. “Many of them have amazing stories and are deeply proud of their military service ... their call to duty. They are among our greatest spokespersons and you need to consider how you can leverage that.”

The overall point of his talk, and the conference, Jones summarized is to encourage innovative thinking and foster a broader perspective of the Army recruiting and retention picture.

“If you can build that sense of pride – that realization that the benefit of military service goes far beyond monetary value – you can have an enormous impact on recruiting and retention figures.

“You have seen it yourselves,” Jones said, acknowledging the wealth of experience and years of service in the room. “Your experiences, your appreciation of life, your appreciation for the freedom’s we enjoy ... that will be with you for a long time.

“And it will be with those kids who have gone over to help the Iraqi and Afghani people stand on their own two feet. They have achieved something bigger than themselves, and they will be tomorrow’s ‘greatest generation.”

Sellers noted that the ideas discussed during the forum will be carefully evaluated to determine if they might merit a change in procedure within TRADOC’s Retention Program. Of particular interest are recommendations to decrease attrition, support the recruiting effort and “team approaches” to recruiting and retention issues to ensure the Army meets it’s congressionally mandated end strength.

Visit us online at:
www.monroe.army.mil/casemate

4X10
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2X3
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Annual regatta promises racing excitement

The 79th Annual Hampton Cup Regatta — the largest and oldest continuous inboard hydroplane race in the country — speeds back to nearby Mill Creek next month.

More than 100 hydroplanes and runabouts from the United States and Canada are expected to take to the waters just off Fort Monroe from Aug. 12 to 14. National and world records are regularly set during the race as the piston-powered racing boats edge past 170 mph.

This year, Hampton will play host to 12 classes of watercraft that will compete for the Summer National Title.

Other event festivities include a children’s area, food and beverage vendors, souvenir programs, vintage cars and hot rods. Nature conservation programs and racing-enthusiast clothing and collectibles will also be featured. Race contestants will participate in autograph sessions throughout the competition.



Courtesy photo

The Demon Chaser – owned by Dave Coes of Hampton – races in the Grand National Hydroplane competition at about 170 mph.

Races start at noon and end at 5 p.m., daily in Mill Creek, located at the entrance of Fort Monroe along the Mercury Boulevard bridge. Viewing stands will be located on the bridge or guests

can watch from the shoreline on post. Visitors are reminded that anyone 18 years and older must have a picture ID to access the installation. Motorists without a DoD decal should also be prepared to show their vehicle registration and driver’s license to obtain a one-day vehicle pass. Further installation access rules for the regatta will appear in the Aug. 5 edition of the Casemate.

This event is free and open to the public. There is a fee to visit the pit area, which will be located along Stilwell Road on post.

New to the Regatta this year is the Friday Business Networking Event to be held at noon under the VIP Hospitality Tent. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the gate. A light lunch and refreshments will be served. Contact Anne Doop at 288-8632 for more information.

For more information on the regatta, visit www.hamptoncupregatta.org or call 727-8311.

TOWN HALL

Continued from Page 3

remove grass, weeds and sand. Straw bales have been purchased and a picnic table was delivered to the archery range.

Can a skateboard park be built?

Due to liability issues, Fort Monroe is not able to provide a skateboard park. A park is located on Woodland Drive, Hampton and is free and open to the public.

There are not many playgrounds for older children, can additional ones be built?

The BRAC guidance for installations identified for closure severely limits projects that can be started. However, if we are removed from the list, we will attempt to incorporate older playgrounds into the new (housing) construction plan.

Contractors enter our yards without letting us know work is being performed. Is there a policy that addresses this issue?

There is no formal written policy; however, we attempt to inform residents when work is to be conducted. The privatization of utilities makes this more difficult, but we will continue to work the issue.

5X10 AD

Kiwi Kraze, Peachy Keen, Banana Berry, Chocolate Éclair and Strawberry Granitas are just some of the brain-chilling, icy drinks now available at Fitside Perk, in the main lobby of the fitness center.

Heritage program prep

Representatives of the TRADOC Directorate of Operations and Training are currently planning post events for this year’s National Native American Heritage Month observance, Nov. 1 through 30.

Soldiers, family members and civilian employees are invited to be a part of this planning committee.

Contact Rudy Boisseau at rudy.boisseau@monroe.army.mil or 788-2983; or William Endres at william.endres2@us.army.mil or 788-3086 for more information.

‘Soldiers’ seeks photos

The staff at “Soldiers” magazine is planning several special releases in coming months and needs photographs to make these products as colorful and informative as possible.

In December, they will publish their first calendar and are looking for good full-frame horizontal images that depict seasonal events, Army values or compelling moments in Army life.

For January they will need photographs that identify Army installations and Army equipment, or photographs of news events that affected the entire Army this year.

In February they will print the

annual feature, “This Is Our Army,” which contains candid photos of the Army family at work and play. Thus, they are looking for human interest photos that also carry an Army theme — including strong images of tough Army training, community activities, Army operations, and deployments and returns from missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, Africa, South America and other locations.

The photos must be taken between August 2004 and August 2005 to be considered for the calendar.

For additional information, contact Don Wagner at (703) 806-4504 or donald.wagner@belvoir.army.mil.

Historical group meets

The Historical and Archaeological Society of Fort Monroe will meet on Aug. 1 at 11:30 a.m. at Delargy’s Bistro, 1814-A Todds Lane in Hampton.

The guest speaker will be Pamela Schenian, Fort Monroe Environmental Scientist. She will discuss “BRAC and Historic Preservation.”

This event is open to the general public. For more information, contact David Johnson at 788-3935.

Electronics values

The AAFES 2005 Summer Electronics Catalog contains items for home, car or on the go during this summer season. The catalog features 24 pages of name-brand televisions, cameras, home theaters, mini systems and portable audio players.

The catalog is available at all main stores and to online customers at www.aafes.com. Prices in the catalog are valid until Oct. 12.

Leadership training

The Army Management Staff College has a new way to deliver its training to Tidewater residents — the Sustaining Base Leadership and Management Tidewater Metro program.

The Tidewater Metro program allows students to complete the SBLM curriculum primarily by commuting to classes in the local area. It offers flexibility and extended time to complete course work and requires only short residence periods.

Applicants should be GS-12 through GS-14 (or equivalent), and GS-11 and GS-15 by exception. Major or lieutenant colonel, chief warrant officers, sergeant major or command sergeant major ranked

personnel also may apply.

The class runs Jan. 2 to Dec. 15, but students should apply as soon as possible. Applications are due to Headquarters DA by Sept. 2.

To apply online, visit amscportal.belvoir.army.mil

For questions about SBLM-Tidewater Metro, contact Jack Hart, at (703) 805-4735. For questions about the electronic application process, contact the AMSC Registrar at (703) 805-4757/4756.

Thrift Shop

The Fort Monroe Thrift Shop will close for the summer at 2 p.m., July 29. It will reopen Sept. 13 at 10 a.m. Consignment checks for July will be issued Aug. 2 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Library book sale

The Friends of the Newport News Public Library are hosting a used book sale at the West Avenue branch on Aug. 11 and 12. Paperbacks will sell for \$.10 and hardbacks for a quarter.

The sale runs from noon to 5 p.m., Aug. 11, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Aug. 12.

Visit groups.hamptonroads.com/friendsofnewportnewspubliclibrary for more information.

6X7
AD

AAFES celebrates 110th anniversary

BY PATRICIA RADCLIFFE
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

For 110 years the Army and Air Force Exchange Service has supported the military at home and abroad with the necessities of life and a lot of the luxury items that tend to make things a little nicer.

“Wherever the Army is, we are there,” boasted Brenda Neilson, Fort Monroe PX manager. Everything from brand-name concessions to the smallest personal care goods follow Soldiers to their mission areas around the world, she noted.

AAFES facilities are as varied as the military members they serve and the missions they support. At Monroe, the current PX was opened in 1986. It contains 18,000 square feet of display space and is divided into several shopping areas including the Shoppette, main store, Military Clothing Sales and concession areas.

The Shoppette specializes in convenience merchandise and gas. The main store has an impressive furniture inventory and the MCSS supports Soldiers’ uniform requirements.

In tandem, Neilson said, the AAFES program is of great benefit to customers. “We save you money every day” is one of AAFES’ mottos, which is especially visible in furniture sales on post.

“We’re the only AAFES furniture store in the area. The next closest is (about) 75 miles from here at Fort Lee,” Neilson said.

“We have savings like ... one brand-name recliner (that) sells for \$899 here and for \$1,499 on the outside. You can’t beat that. We may not be able to do a one-to-one comparison on everything with such an outstanding savings, but overall we save Soldiers 22.9 percent,” she said.

And this weekend customers will save even more as the exchange celebrates its anniversary. Furniture purchases over \$50 will be delivered free within the local area and sale items will be priced at an additional 25 percent off, Neilson said.

She also plans to give away a recliner, a Soldier bear and other prizes to commemorate this milestone in AAFES’ history.

The exchange service lineage began on July 25, 1895 when the war department issued General Order 46 which directed post commanders to establish an exchange “at every post where practicable,” according to AAFES’ official Web site. Since then, exchanges have popped up wherever they are needed worldwide.

To learn more about AAFES history and anniversary promotions, visit www.aafes.com.

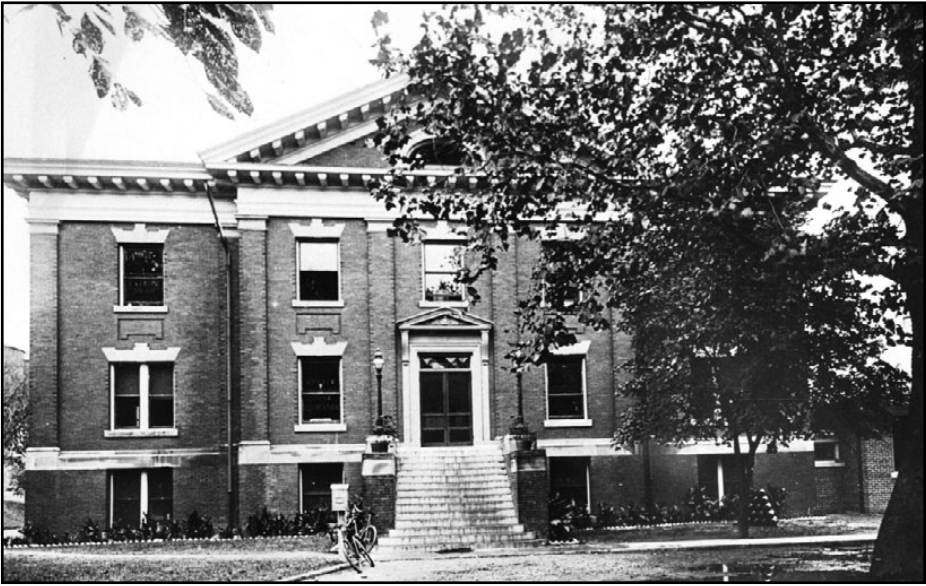


Photo courtesy of the Casemate Museum

The structure pictured above was built in 1901 as a combination post exchange and gym, complete with a mezzanine running track and two bowling alleys. The basement included a dry-cleaner, while the first floor housed a cashier’s office, tailor shop and clothing sales. The second floor was divided between a beauty shop and bookkeeping offices. Additions to the building were made in 1909, and the windows were barred in 1924, by which time some of the PX functions had been transfered to nearby Bldg. 7 (now the Fort Monroe Library). By 1948 the basement had become a vegetable market, beer garden and seafood market. In 1970 the PX moved to Bldg. 12, formerly the sewage disposal plant, and remained there until the present PX was completed in the early 1980s.

3X7
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3X8
AD

TRADOC selects top Soldiers

STORY AND PHOTOS BY PATRICK BUFFETT
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

A PATRIOT missile operator from Fort Bliss, Texas, and a unit supply specialist from Fort Jackson, S.C., are Training and Doctrine Command's NCO and Soldier of the Year for 2005.

Sgt. 1st Class Wendell Huddleston and Pfc. Jeanelle Joseph, both representing the Combined Arms Center, were presented a \$1,000 savings bond and various other awards during a luncheon Thursday at the Bay Breeze Community Center. Huddleston and Joseph may also request the assignment of their choice, according to competition officials.

Six active-duty Soldiers and noncommissioned officers in all participated in the fourth annual competition, which began Monday. In addition to Joseph, the Soldier of the Year participants were: Sgt. Karleen Abian, representing the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant School at Fort Jackson, S.C., and U.S. Army Accessions Command; and Sgt. Farrin Conway, representing the NCO Academy at Fort Jackson and Combined Arms Support Command.

Competing alongside Huddleston were: Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Bechtold, representing the Western Region Cadet Command at Fort Knox, Ky., and USAAC; and Sgt. 1st Class Andrea Deramus-Stout, representing the Soldier Support

Institute at Fort Jackson, and CASCOM.

Only a portion of the competition was conducted at Fort Monroe. Those events included the Army Physical Fitness Test, conducted early Monday morning, a 50-question written exam, an essay and a board appearance that took place Wednesday. On Tuesday, the competition moved to Fort Eustis where the candidates completed day and night land navigation courses, a road march, warrior tasks and a weapons qualification range.

Sgt. 1st Class Wendell Huddleston, a PATRIOT missile operator from Fort Bliss, Texas, and Pfc. Jeanelle Joseph, a unit supply specialist from Fort Jackson, S.C., with represent TRADOC at the U.S. Army NCO and Soldier of the Year competition in September.

The warrior tasks included evaluating a casualty, providing immediate first aid, responding to a chemical or biological hazard/attack, reacting to unexploded ordnance and loading/unloading the M-249 squad assault weapon. The NCOs had to perform all Soldier tasks and demonstrate their ability to correctly call for a medical evacuation and teach room clearing procedures in a combat environment.

The Eustis events were new to the competi-

tion and they "added an extra dimension," according to Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Barney of the TRADOC Command Sergeant Major's office. "In previous years, those events were conducted at the lower unit and (major support command) level, but not here. By incorporating them in the TRADOC competition, we not only create a much more rigorous event that gives us a better assessment of the whole Soldier, but we also align ourselves with the contest at DA level."

As a result of their win, Huddleston, who is currently assigned to the NCO Academy at Fort Bliss, and Joseph, who is assigned to Company B, 2nd Battalion, 54th Infantry (Training Brigade) at Fort Jackson, will also represent TRADOC at the Army's NCO and Soldier of the Year competition scheduled for late September at Fort Lee, Va.

The pair also received a plaque and TRADOC commanding general and command sergeant major coins. Their names will also be placed on a perpetual plaque at TRADOC headquarters.

Runners up received a TRADOC plaque, plus CG and CSM coins. The remaining two competitors received CG and CSM coins.

A follow-up feature about the winners and their assessment of the competition will appear next week on the TRADOC News Service Web site: www.monroe.army.mil/pao.



Photo above: Sgt. 1st Class Wendell Huddleston, representing the NCO Academy at Fort Bliss, Texas, and Combined Arms Command, teaches a class on room clearing procedures in a hostile environment during Tuesday's warrior task portion of the TRADOC NCO and Soldier of the Year competition. Photo right: Pfc. Jeanelle Joseph, representing the 2nd Battalion, 54th Infantry (Training Brigade) at Fort Benning, Ga., and the Combined Arms Command, knocks out one last pushup during the Army Physical Fitness Test Monday morning at Continental Park.



Sgt. 1st Class Andrea Deramus-Stout, CASCOM, completes the first leg of Tuesday's road march.



Sgt. Karleen Abian, USAAC, transmits a radio message during warrior task testing Tuesday.



Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Bechtold, USAAC, fills out information needed to report a chemical attack.



Photo above: Like many ceremonies on Fort Monroe, the July 14 Garrison Change of Command at Continental Park featured a color guard dressed in uniforms similar to those worn in the 19th century. Pictured from left to right are: Sgt. Steven Worthley, Sgt. Wade Roit, Spc. Clayton Peterson, Spc. Kyle Mahaffey, Pfc. Jaime Kelley and Sgt. Kavin Edwards. Photo left: Departing garrison commander, Col. Perry Allmendinger, receives the Army Legion of Merit award from Diane Devens, Director of the Northeast Region. Photo far left: Col. Jason T. Evans renders honors during the playing of the national anthem.

Photos by Patricia Radcliffe and Patrick Buffett

EVANS Continued from Page 1

immediate and extended family who were in the audience. They included his wife, Machel, and three children: Nachelle, Jason II and Julian.

"I'll warn you now that we have something in common with wolves ... we show up in packs," Evans joked. "Seriously, though, I am extremely blessed by the love and support of my family. They have been there for every significant event in my military career and I am extremely grateful."

Welcoming Evans to Fort Monroe, the TRADOC DCG said the privilege of command is a "sacred trust" that is awarded to those who exemplify the highest standards of leadership. "I know that you will seize every challenge and leverage every opportunity to do what's right for this community."

Jones also highlighted the accomplishments of the outgoing commander, saying that Allmendinger has "etched his place" in Fort Monroe history. "Hurricane Isabel was part of his watch, and he was truly the calm in the storm," the general said.

"Despite millions of dollars worth of damage, he saw opportunity ... a chance to implement a vision. In the days that followed, we saw World War II wood come down and new administrative buildings opened for business. He leveraged new opportunities to work with the local community and build new partnerships through summer concerts and other community events.

"I was proud to walk with you through those steps," Jones said. "You have made a tremendous difference at Fort Monroe."

In her remarks, Devens added the security concerns of post-9/11 and the budgetary constraints caused by an Army at war to the list of challenges faced by Allmendinger over the past three years. Nonetheless, Monroe remains a "leader in installation stewardship," she said. "Like all great Army colonels, you stepped up to the plate and faced each challenge."

Focusing on the outgoing colonel's "facility reduction program," which resulted in the decon-

struction of 17 buildings across post, Devens quipped: "He brought down more buildings than Isabel. Hurricane Allmendinger was clearly a category four."

Devens also itemized an assortment of additional projects that resulted in cost savings or potential income for the command. They include the reconstruction of Engineer Pier using Army divers from the 511th Engineer Company, which saved about \$1 million. New boat slips at the Marina and parking pads at the post RV campground could generate a \$100,000 profit for MWR.

"I know that you will seize every challenge and leverage every opportunity to do what's right for this community."

Lt. Gen. Anthony R. Jones

TRADOC DCG/CHIEF OF STAFF

Turning her attention to Evans, the Northeast Region Director first highlighted his previous positions, which include an initial assignment as Installation Adjutant for Army Materiel Command, Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark., and his last job as Chief, Department of Army Secretariat for Officer Centralized Selection Boards, Human Resources Command, Alexandria, Va. The colonel's career has also taken him to Mogadishu, Somalia, where he was the G1, Joint Task Force Logistics Command; and Kosovo, where he served as Commander, Task Force 510th Personnel Services Battalion.

"Now you find yourself in charge of the nation's second oldest active Army installation," Devens said. "You will chart Fort Monroe's role in BRAC."

"And my first mission for you is to do everything in your power to support the families and employees of Fort Monroe," she added. "Second, I

want you to support Army transformation and the ongoing war on terrorism. You are well versed in the joint environment and well suited for this command."

The ceremony concluded with remarks by the outgoing commander. He thanked Devens for her support and referred to Jones as "a leader for the times at hand and the future ahead." He also singled out his "battle buddy," Command Sgt. Maj. David Williams, the installation's lead NCO. "It was a pleasure to serve with this walk-the-talk senior noncommissioned officer."

"Being the post commander of Fort Monroe has, by far, been the most challenging – and at the same time, the most rewarding – job in my lifetime," Allmendinger said. "So many people make this post work efficiently and effectively ... I know that I have oftentimes asked for a lot, but in return you gave your all. You will not find a finer, more dedicated group of professionals anywhere."

"Each of you in attendance today is truly special to the Allmendinger family. We cherish the times we have spent together, the love and admiration we have developed and the missions we have collectively accomplished."

The incoming commander's professional accomplishments also include a Master of Science Degree in Business Administration from Webster University, St. Louis, and an identical degree in National Resource Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Fort McNair, Washington D.C. Evans is also a graduate of the Army's Command and General Staff College, the Adjutant Officers Basic and Advance Courses, and the Resource Management Course.

Evans' awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Army Meritorious Service Medal (4th oak leaf cluster), Army Commendation Medal (with oak leaf cluster), Army Achievement Medal (with oak leaf cluster), Parachutist Badge and the Army Staff Identification Badge.

Got any sports results?
Need to advertise an upcoming event?
Give us a call at 788-3208 or e-mail casemate@monroe.army.mil.



Pfc. Katherine Brown swings a tad too early to connect with the meteor hurled by Rich Hoppe of the King and His Court fast-pitch softball team during an exhibition game at DeRussy Field July 8. With only four players, and comical sideline commentary provided by team founder Eddie “The King” Feigner, the visiting team kept the 12-member squad from Fort Monroe on their toes. The show included expertly thrown behind-the-back pitches, player conversations with the audience and plenty of good-natured heckling.



Photo left: Rich Hoppe fires a pitch toward home plate during the July 8 King and His Court game. Photo above: Jack Knight, far right, discusses the finer points of exhibition-style softball with the home team. “The score doesn’t matter,” Knight noted, “the goal here is to have fun.”

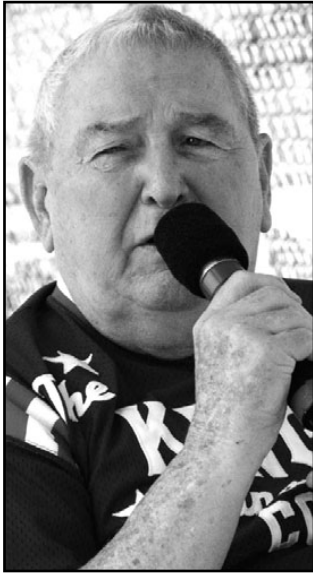


Photo left: Eddie Feigner introduces the members of his exhibition fast-pitch softball team King and His Court. Photo above: Despite being tagged out by Col. Perry Allmendinger, Jack Knight does a slow-motion crouch and slide just short of third. “Hey Eddie, I guess I slid a little late,” Knight announced afterward. “And a little short,” Feigner responded.

Photos by Patrick Buffett

High Rollers — Wednesday Night Chillin’ League			
Week of June 29		Week of July 6	
Men, 200 score/600 series or better:		Women, 200 score/600 series better:	
Ron Finchum	237, 214/629	Julie Parks	230/533
Jim Dunlap	228	Men, 200 score/600 series or better:	
Dan Hines	227	Jim Dunlap	226, 214
Larry Larkin	208	Larry Larkin	215
Mark Moore	200	Dennis Cooper	213, 211/602
		Chip Wikan	212
		William Crosby	210
		Davis Weaver	202
		Ron Finchum	200
		Week of July 13	
		Women, 200 score/600 series better:	
		Windy Cooper	243/577
		Julie Parks	213/536
		Men, 200 score/600 series or better:	
		Larry Larkin	256, 211/654
		Steven Fitch	244, 209/623
		Paul Heilman	244
		Dennis Cooper	235
		Ron Finchum	224, 207, 204/635
		Patrick Khoryati	213
		David Weaver	203
From the bowling manager: As you can see, scores are high for this summer league. Even if you aren’t in a league, come by The Bowl and roll a few games (to keep your timing intact for the winter leagues which begin play in late August/early September). We all realize how hot it is outside these summer days, so come join us for lunch and some fun bowling at the “coolest” place in town.			

Youth Services kids tackle sports camps

STORY AND PHOTO BY
JOSHUA BREVARD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Over this summer, there are a number of sports clinics available for the youth on Fort Monroe. Conducted within or near the Community Activities Center, the clinics consist of activities like gymnastics, basketball, tennis, hip-hop dance, soccer, windsurfing, cheerleading and tiny tots hoops. They are intended to teach children the basic skills needed to play each sport. The sessions began earlier this month, and the clinics for gymnastics and soccer were completed on July 15. Hip hop dance and cheerleading will

begin next week. There are still several other clinics coming up with sessions beginning in August. Registration for the clinics ends two weeks before each one begins. Space in the classes is limited to first come first served, so it is important to sign up early. The cost includes all classes and a T-shirt. Participants must be CYS members. Transportation will be provided for Child Development Center and School Age Services participants. For more information about specific clinics, dates, times and costs, contact Mike Jones at 788-3957.



Imani Sherrill (13) prepares to knock down some pins at the Bowling Center on July 15.

Intramural Sports Standings

<u>Softball</u>			
Ultimate Weapons	11-1	George Washington	6-2
DCST	10-1	USAAC	1-7
Warriors	7-5	JTFCS	2-8
Moat Dogs	2-6	*As of July 19	
<u>Basketball</u>			
M WR	2-0	Cadet Command	2-0
Fire	1-1	JTFCS	0-1
HHC	1-0	*As of July 19.	
ISA	0-2		
<i>All standings are provided by the Fort Monroe Sports Office.</i>			

Monroe mid-season golf tourney

Championship Flight			
1st Place, Donnie White	Gross 76	Net 62	
2nd Place, Raymond Law	Gross 78	Net 65	
3rd Place, John Bertotti	Gross 79	Net 69	
Second Flight			
1st Place, Larry Sisemore	Gross 84	Net 58	
2nd Place, Nick DiNunzio	Gross 79	Net 59	
3rd Place, Jeff Stewart	Gross 80	Net 65	
Third Flight			
1st Place, Thomas Gunther	Gross 93	Net 62	
2nd Place, Mark Brinsley	Gross 95	Net 67	
3rd Place, Richard Anderson	Gross 104	Net 73	

Youth soccer registration continues through Aug. 10 at the Community Activities Center. Call 788-3957.

VA offers hot weather tips

Summer heat waves often produce temperatures that can last for days or weeks. The Department of Veterans Affairs advises that when participating in outdoor activities in the heat and humidity, be on the lookout for signs of heat-related stress or heat exhaustion. Symptoms include heavy sweating, pale-

ness, muscle cramps, tiredness, weakness, dizziness, headache, nausea or fainting. People most at risk for heat stroke or heat exhaustion are:

- Infants and children under four
- People 65 or older
- People who are overweight

- People who overexert during work or exercise
- People who are ill or on certain medications

To prevent heat-related stress:

- Drink plenty of fluids, and avoid alcohol and caffeine, as they can cause dehydration
- Avoid outdoor activities during the hottest parts of the day
- Consider wearing a wide-brimmed light hat.

For more information, contact the local VA medical center in Hampton or visit www.nchpdp.med.va.gov.

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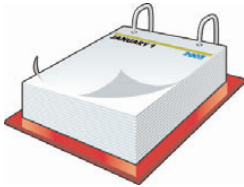
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MoatNotes

UPCOMING SPOTLIGHT EVENTS

Swim Under the Stars July 23 | Post Retirement Ceremony . . . July 29
Post Run July 26 | Ethics Training Aug. 2
Music Under the Stars July 28 | Newcomers orientation . . . Aug. 11
For more on these and other upcoming events, see calendar below or other stories and briefs in this issue.



July 22

Family fun night

Here's a chance to spend fun time on the golf course with the kids in your life. The Woodland Golf Course will be set with family tees that are kid/beginner friendly at 5:30 p.m.

Family Friday will also be held Aug. 12. The fee is \$10 per person, which includes dinner, green fees and prizes. Appropriate golf attire is required but tennis shoes are acceptable.

Participants should provide their own set of clubs; however, clubs are available for rent if needed.

For more information call 727-1195.

Shakespeare fest

The Virginia Shakespeare Festival presents "The complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)" for the delight of lovers and haters of Shakespeare's work. It is an irreverant, fast-paced romp through the Bard's plays written in modern language.

Billed as "Saturday Night Live Shakespeare," it includes Hamlet played backwards in 30 seconds, a rap veriosn of Othello and Titus andronicus as a galloping gourmet.

This show runs through July 31. The Box Office for the VSF is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Phi Beta Kappa Hall, 601 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg. Call 221-2674 for more information.

'History on the Elizabeth River'

Cross the Elizabeth River to discover the cities of Portsmouth and Norfolk. See the Fresnel Lens, the Naval Shipyard Museum and the Lightship Museum in Portsmouth, then take the Elizabeth River Ferry to see the Hampton Roads Naval Museum and the Battleship Wisconsin in Norfolk.

The tour will last from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will also be tours on Aug. 13 and 26. The tour is \$4 per person. The cost includes admission to the museums mentioned above, a two-way ferry ride, and an information booklet for the sites. Tickets can be purchased at the Naval Shipyard Museum, 2 High St., Portsmouth. Call 757-393-8591 for details.

July 23

Chalk it up

The inaugural Chalk the Walk ARTsplosion will be held Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the board-

Kid at Play

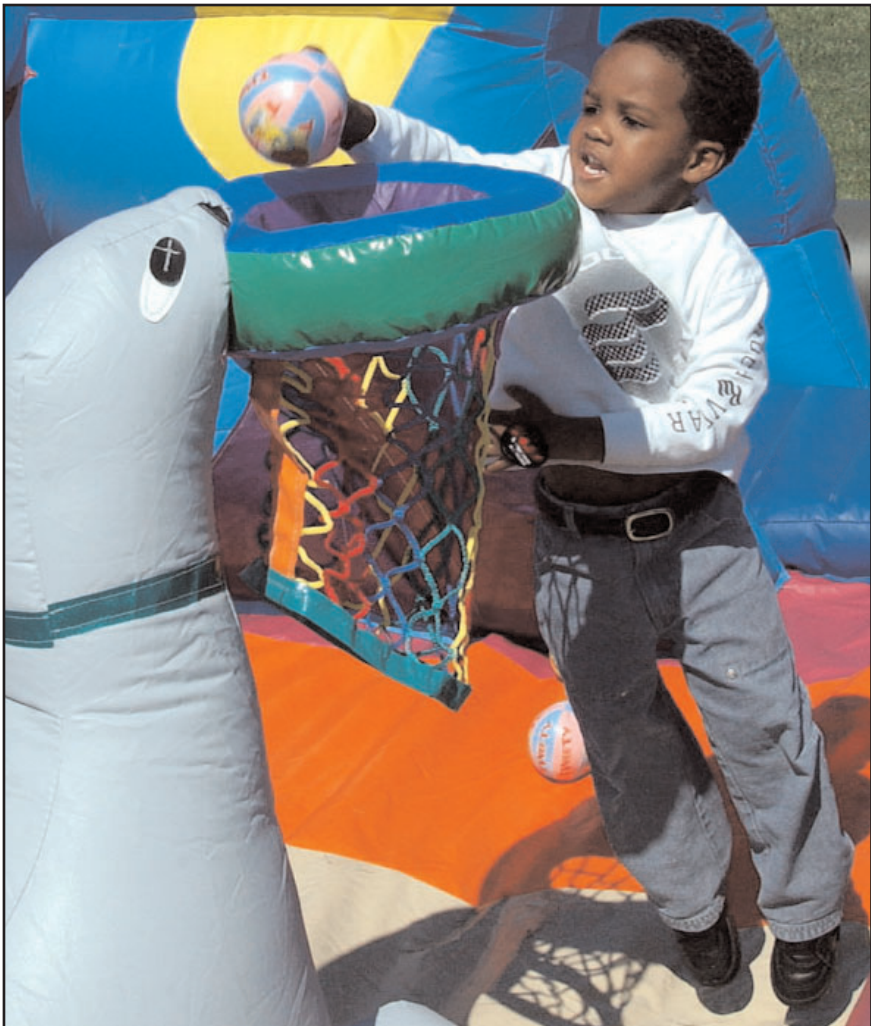


Photo by Patricia Radcliffe

A seriously slam dunking toddler participates in last year's Kid's Day festivities on post. Fort Monroe will hold its annual Kid's Day on Aug. 27 on the parade field inside the moat. Activities will begin at 10 a.m.

walk at the Virginia Beach oceanfront. All artists and aspiring artists have a chance to be expressive in a medium that people of all ages can appreciate – chalk.

Artists will base their chalk drawings on "Flights of Fantasy" – a broad theme that encompasses birds, jet aircraft and everything in between.

Registration begins at 10 a.m. All participants must register and begin drawing by 1 p.m. All drawings must be completed by 2:30 p.m. to be eligible for competition. Judging will take place between 2:30 and 4:30 p.m., and the awards ceremony will be held at 4:30 p.m.

Self-publishing books

Cathy Kurchinski will host a class called "Ideas and Tips on Self-Publishing Books" in Olde Towne Portsmouth. Kurchinski is a local author, illustrator and publisher of her own children's book, "Hurray for the Yoder Barn!"

During this class, she will discuss the self-publishing business, cover the steps involved with getting a book published and go over the writing and illustrating processes.

The class is open to writers and illustrators of all genres who should bring their work to discuss. It will begin at 11 a.m. and end at 2 p.m. Cost is \$20 (\$10 for members), and includes admission to the exhibits on the day of class. Participants should bring a bag lunch.

To register and get more information, call 393-8543.

Scavenger hunt

Bring the entire family out to search from the Fresnel Lens to the Lightship Portsmouth in this family event. The program begins at 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Pick up a scavenger hunt sheet from the Lightship Portsmouth or the Naval Shipyard Museum.

During the summer, they are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$1 for students from ages 2 to 18.

Call 393-5258, Ext. 19, for additional information.

'Toying with Science'

Come by The American Theatre for an afternoon of fun and entertainment when Garry Krinsky

stops by with his show "Toying With Science!"

This is a fast-paced educational program which combines circus skills, mime, and audience participation in the exploration of scientific principles.

The show begins at 2:00 pm. Tickets are only \$12, children under 12 are half price. Call the box office at 722-2787 to order.

July 25

History camps

The Hampton History Museum kicks off its summer camps July 25 with a half-day camp for children ages 10-14 called "That's Write Fancy." During the 9 a.m. to noon session, children will use special pens to practice the fine art of calligraphy. The fee, which covers pens and notebooks to take home, is \$20 per child.

"Steppin' Through Time," an exploration of music and dance of many cultures for children ages 8-14, is set for July 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The cost is \$35 per child.

The final session, "Dig Into History," will be Aug 4 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This archaeology camp for children ages 8-12 includes meeting an archaeologist, a field trip to Historic Jamestown and the take home "Bottle-Site" project. The fee is \$35 per child and includes a lunch box.

For more information, call 727-6838 or 727-1610.

At The Movies

Showing at the Fort Eustis Theater

- Friday, July 22**
7 p.m. — Mr. and Mrs. Smith (PG)
- Saturday, July 23**
2 p.m. — The Adventures of Shark Boy and Lava Girl (PG)
7 p.m. — The Honeymooners (PG-13)
- Wednesday, July 27**
7 p.m. — Mr. and Mrs. Smith (PG)
- Thursday, July 28**
7 p.m. — The Honeymooners (PG-13)
- Friday, July 29**
Batman Begins (PG-13)
- Saturday, July 30**
2 p.m. — The Perfect Man (PG)
7 p.m. — Land of the Dead (R)
- Wednesday, Aug. 3**
7 p.m. — Batman Begins (PG-13)
- Thursday, Aug. 4**
7 p.m. — Land of the Dead (R)

*The Langley Air Force Base movie theater is closed for renovations.

Adults \$2, children 6-12 years old \$1.50 and children under 6 are free. If a child under 6 occupies a seat at a G-rated movie, admission is \$1.50. Special movie showings are available. For more information, call 766-1237.

July 26

Easterlin sings

TodiMusicFest and the City of Hampton present “What a Character! The Many Faces of John Easterlin” July 26 at 8 p.m. at St. John’s Episcopal Church in downtown Hampton on Queens Way.

From Broadway to Metropolitan Opera, Easterlin has captivated audiences with his versatility and unmistakable tenor voice. With an extensive theatrical background, Easterlin’s professional credits include a Broadway debut as Ari Leshnikoff in the musical Band in Berlin and a return to Broadway as Mary Sunshine in the Tony Award winning revival of Chicago.

Tickets are \$15. For information on admission to this and other TodiMusicFest events, call the Todi box office at 397-3541. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

‘Come in for a Jolt’

In this “Summer Fun” program, held in the Children’s Museum of Virginia, kids can explore static electricity, levitating bubbles and lightning from a wool sweater. They will find ways to alleviate that repulsive feeling you might have towards magnets. Participants may become so attracted to poles, domains and electromagnets, that it may be difficult to pull you away.

The program is held on July 26,

27, and 29. It begins at 11:30, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. Admission is free and held in the museum at 221 High St. in Olde Towne Portsmouth.

July 28

‘Tommy Fest 2005’

Australian guitarist Tommy Emmanuel returns to Yoder Barn, Newport News, for his annual Tommy Fest July 28-31. Performances begin at 7 p.m. each night.

Emmanuel’s career spans three decades and continues to intersect with some of the finest musicians in the world time and time again. “I think he’s probably one of the greatest finger-pickers in the world,” country music legend Chet Atkins once said about him.

Tickets may be purchased at Yoder Barn box office located at 660 Hamilton Drive or by calling 249-4187. Box office hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and also one hour before event start times.

Guitar workshops hosted by Emmanuel will take place July 29-31. For information and tickets, call the Yoder Barn box office.

July 30

Concert in Yorktown

There will be a free concert at the Episcopal Churchyard in York-

town at 7 p.m., July 30. It will feature Coyote Run. The church is located at 111 Church Street. Bring a picnic supper and a chair and enjoy the adventure of driving rhythms, Celtic flair, and heroic tales told by Coyote Run. For more information, Call 890-4490.

Moscow Circus

The Moscow State Circus will be at the Constant Center in Norfolk

for two great shows on July 30. The first show will be at 2 p.m. and the second at 7 p.m.

The Moscow State Circus is exciting, and fast-paced. It does not use animals. Their slogan is “people entertaining people.”

Tickets are \$23.50 for adults and \$9 for children 12 and under. They are available at the Constant Center Box Office and all Ticketmaster locations.



Photo by Kathy Franz

Open for business

Former garrison commander, Col. Perry D. Allmendinger, and Mia Williams from the Directorate of Information Management, officially open the new video teleconference center along Tidball Road (on the site of the old commissary). The \$745,000 building took approximately seven months to build. The inside features two studios, the largest of which can seat 75, a kitchen area and an administrative office.

Photo right: G.C. Cameron, lead singer of the Temptations, performs one of his group's greatest hits Sunday at Fort Monroe's Walker Airfield. Photo below: Motown fans dance and sing to the music of the Temptations. According to an unofficial count, more than 5,000 visitors were on hand for Sunday's concert. Photo bottom: Terry Weeks, kneeling, sings about lost love as the remaining Temptations perform their world-famous four-part harmony.



Photos by Patrick Buffett

Summer Concert Scrapbook

Gospel greats, Motown legends highlight weekend performance



Photo above and below by Patricia Radcliffe

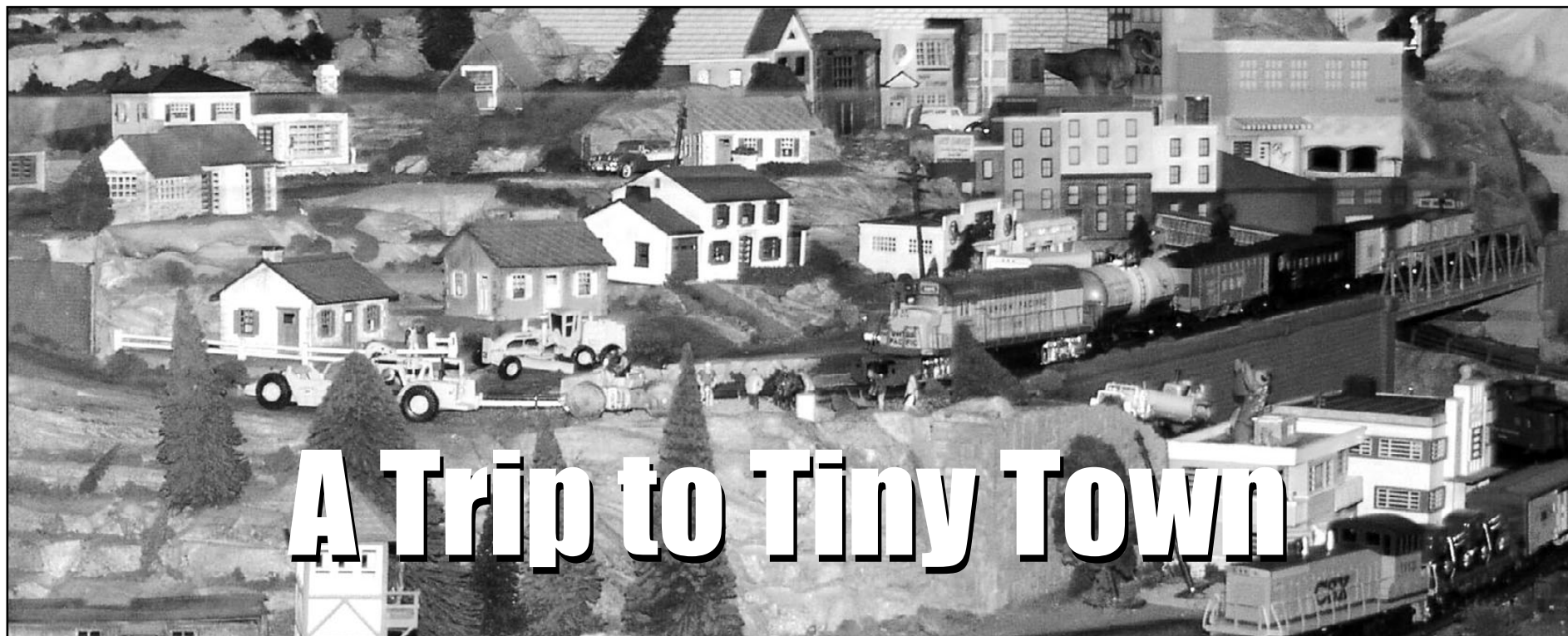
Photo above: Col. Jason T. Evans, garrison commander, opens Saturday's "Picnic in the Park" gospel concert with a welcome to the many guests who came out to the event. Also pictured is Mark Rawlison from radio station WXEZ 94.1 which sponsored the concert. Photo right: A member of one of the singing groups that entertained gospel music enthusiasts Saturday.



Theo Peoples demonstrates the vocal talent that earned him a spot as the newest member of the Four Tops.



Two members of the Four Tops perform for fans at Sunday's summer concert at Walker Airfield.



Children's Museum makes learning fun

Rich fire engine red, bright sunshine yellow, soothing seafoam green, deep royal blue and other vibrant colors delightfully assault the senses. Shrill whistles blast from a gigantic wall clock as its cogs, gears and belts loudly crank.

Laughter, playful screams and the excited chatter of children fill the air. These are all signs that fun and discovery are afoot at the Children's Museum of Virginia.

The centerpiece of Olde Towne in Portsmouth, the museum offers families a perfect solution for mid-summer doldrums. It's the largest museum of its kind in the state with over 90 hands-on exhibits that provide educational adventures in communication, science, technology, art and music, among other things.

"The hands-on component of all of our exhibits provides a very subtle science lesson. From a giant computer that kids can enter to daily shows in our (66-seat) planetarium we strive to show young visitors things about the world around us as well as what's beyond our world in a way that's entertaining, enjoyable and totally relatable. Children love to push buttons, pull levers, create interesting sounds, make lights flash, etc. We absolutely cater to that curiosity," said site-manager Al Schweitzer.

"We want children to walk away having discovered something new but in a fun way. Parents also get a thrill watching how their children react to different things throughout the museum. It's fun to see them enjoying the exhibits through their children's eyes.

"A family visiting the museum could actually make a day in Olde Towne. We're in a wonderful area downtown that provides a little something for everyone. Spend a few hours of the morning here, break for lunch at one of the surrounding restaurants, tour adjacent museums and come back here for more," he added.

Hands down, the "Bubble Room" is the crowd favorite among Children's Museum exhibits, said the site manager. Using all kinds of everyday items like plastic clothes hangers, visitors can make bubbles of every description at the water tables. Youngsters can even step inside a bubble. The exhibit leaves all with lessons in refraction, reflection surface tension and geometry, Schweitzer added.

Another audience pleaser is "The City" -- a scaled down version of High Street where children can role-play. There's a bank, medical clinic, grocery store, post office box, an HRT bus, a

STORY AND PHOTOS BY BELINDA BAKER
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

fire engine and a police motorcycle. The exhibit also has an ATM, newsstand and a bus stop to capture imaginations.

A giant bass drum greets visitors at the "Sounds Around" exhibit where youngsters using flip flops can bang on wind chime pipes, strum the strings of a huge guitar, walk on a piano keyboard and make all manner of music.

Toddlers are even covered at the museum. Children 3 and under can venture to the "Tot Lot" to enjoy an array of age-appropriate toys and games. Meanwhile, the Norfolk SPCA hosts "Pet Park" which is an exhibit that shows children how to be good pet "parents" among other important animal safety issues. Live pets and specialists from the SPCA are periodically featured to interact.

The museum also boasts an antique toy collection containing more than 2,000 toys -- Tonka vehicles, mint condition model cars, superbly preserved Buddy L trucks, fire vehicles from all eras, and tin windup and cast iron toys.

Among the toy collection is an extensive train collection, all of which was donated to the museum by A.J. "Junie" Lancaster and his wife Mildred. An entire room is dedicated to the enormous array of pre- and post-war O and standard gauge trains from Lionel, Williams, and Weaver; MTH O gauge trains; and No. 1 gauge Aster trains.

Schweitzer said the oldest object in the collec-

tion is the standard gauge summer trolley #303 built in 1910.

The train exhibit serves to educate visitors about model railroading and railroad history, and how it relates to the Portsmouth and Hampton Roads area.

Trains are displayed along glass-encased walls and in four themed layouts. In one scenario, trains run through a brightly lit candy lane, highlighted with huge cookies, peppermint sticks, lollipops, and other confections. Another scene depicts a 1950s mining town with high trestle bridges and deep mountain tunnels; another layout portrays a coastal theme, where trains pass by a lighthouse and resort hotel.

"We have model railroading (enthusiasts) from the community and surrounding area that actually come in periodically to work on our displays," he said. "They are dedicated to helping us ensure that this exhibit is correctly done and that it stays fresh and entertaining for our visitors," he said.

All in all, the Children's Museum of Virginia is two floors of outright family-friendly entertainment. The facility is open to birthday parties, meetings and other social events. It also boasts a classroom where teachers and their students can take advantage of a range of SOL-based programs and workshops.

Located at 221 High Street, the museum is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Admission is \$6 for ages 2 and up. For more information, including driving directions, visit www.childrensmuseumva.com or call 393-5258.



Youngsters from Bright Heights Learning Center, Newport News, enjoy a July 15 lesson in electricity at the Children's Museum of Virginia, Portsmouth. Photo above: The largest train collection in the Tidewater area is displayed at the Children's Museum. Containing more than 1,000 pieces, the exhibit was donated by a local family.